

Diversity goes on the road with a Lunch and Learn series



Supervisor Dan Chepeska, Howell Probation; Diversity Chairperson Carolynn Hawkins Wilson; Committee members Deidre Gray Taylor, Sonya Barbee, Valerie Meade, Damon Hawkins and Lyvette Manns.

The Region II Diversity Committee is taking diversity on the road beginning this month with their Lunch and Learn at Work series.

Committee members plan to visit different work sites throughout the year in an effort to educate attendees with an informative, inspirational and interactive presentation focusing on cultural diversity.

The workshops will be held during the lunch hour to encourage staff to relax and have lunch while they broaden their horizons. The menus will consist of foods from an array of traditions and lunch is provided by the committee at no charge to staff.

"We hope to create a lunch hour of learning and communicating about cultural diversity," said committee chairperson Carolynn Hawkins Wilson. "We believe that people who eat and learn together work better together."

The first Lunch and Learn was held at the Howell Probation Office on June 3. Supervisor Dan Chepeska and staff were treated to an African American menu traditionally served on Sundays. Participants sampled fried chicken, black-eyed peas, cornbread, collard greens and macaroni and cheese with peach cobbler for dessert.

Hawkins Wilson and the committee provided a short presentation about the historical perspective of their meal as well as interesting information on the African American culture.

The next two diversity luncheons will cover Hispanic and Italian cuisine and culture.

If you would like the committee to visit your worksite or if you are interested in joining the committee, please contact Hawkins Wilson at (586) 469-6141. **F.Y.I.**

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LETR fund raiser nets \$830



The Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center hosted a cookout and raised \$830 for the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Michigan.

This fund-raising event was coordinated by Kathy Pittelkow, Deputy Warden's Secretary and RGC Team Captain.

Transportation Officer and run-team member Bill Hamaker and Ed Peterson, DWH storekeeper, ran the grill all day. Staff were treated to BBQ chicken, hamburgers and hot dogs. *F.Y.I*

DOC employees raise \$132,000 for Special Olympics

Last year MDOC employees were responsible for raising an unprecedented \$132,000 of the \$307,000 collected by the Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR). That equates to about 43 percent and the department's contribution keeps growing.

It is fair to say that without DOC participation in the LETR, Special Olympics Michigan (SOMI) would be forced to cut some programs for the athletes.

Since 1988, the LETR has raised nearly \$6 million for SOMI.

"With the help of DOC volunteers and a little good luck, we'll reach the \$6 million mark by the end of this year," said Michael J. Marutiak, SAI/departmental manager and LETR director. "It's also important to note that the presence of DOC volunteers at SOMI events is just as meaningful to the athletes as the money and the value of that is something we cannot calculate in dollars."

The LETR goal for 2005 is \$400,000. *F.Y.I*



Promotions through June 4

Effective Date	Name	Position	Agency
27-Feb-05	CONERLY, VERA	ASSISTANT RESIDENT UNIT SUPV	G. ROBERT COTTON
8-May-05	KRUPIARZ, MARK J	CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-2	KINROSS/HIAWATHA
8-May-05	MACLAREN, DUNCAN	DEPUTY PRISON WARDEN-3	CHIPPEWA FAC
8-May-05	HERRMANN, REXLYN S	EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-E	PARNALL FACILITY
8-May-05	GRAY, ERICA C	JANITOR-A	EGELER FACILITY
8-May-05	PARAMO, DARRYL P	PAROLE/PROBATION OFFICER-E	FOA REGION II
8-May-05	MCFARLAN, KATHLEEN	REGISTERED NURSE DIRECTOR-2	EGELER FACILITY
8-May-05	EARLEY, ADAM	RESIDENT UNIT OFFICER-E	DEERFIELD FACILITY
8-May-05	MORENO, HOLLY I	RESIDENT UNIT OFFICER-E	NEWBERRY FACILITY
8-May-05	PLUSKAT, ALBERT J	RESIDENT UNIT OFFICER-E	RIVERSIDE FACILITY
8-May-05	BANNISTER, BRYAN K	STOREKEEPER SUPERVISOR-1	HANDLON
22-May-05	IDEMUDIA, RICHARD	CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-1	SCOTT FACILITY
22-May-05	NICEWANDER, SCOTT A	CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-1	OAKS FACILITY
22-May-05	PLATTE, ROBERT C	DATA CODING OPERATOR-E	CENTRAL OFFICE
22-May-05	LUTZ, KELLY S	DEPARTMENTAL ANALYST-E	CENTRAL OFFICE
22-May-05	CALLEJAS, ABIGAIL A	DEPARTMENTAL SPECIALIST-2	CENTRAL OFFICE
22-May-05	NELSON, MAURICE	DEPARTMENTAL SPECIALIST-2	CENTRAL OFFICE
22-May-05	MINTON MATTHEW J	PAROLE/PROBATION OFFICER-E	FOA REGION II
22-May-05	SMITH TERRI	RESIDENT UNIT MANAGER-2	BARAGA FACILITY
22-May-05	WONNACOTT RICKY J	RESIDENT UNIT OFFICER-E	KINROSS/HIAWATHA
22-May-05	CONERLY PERCY R	SENIOR EXECUTIVE WARDEN	PINE RIVER FACILITY
22-May-05	JOHNSTON GERALD F	TRADES INSTRUCTOR-E	SOUTHERN MICHIGAN
31-May-05	REAM KRISTIE L	RESIDENT UNIT OFFICER-E	STANDISH

Eighth Annual Tammy Sperle Golf Outing—July 8

Huron Valley Complex staff will be hosting the Eighth Annual Tammy Sperle Golf Outing on Friday, July 8 at Pineview Golf Course in Ypsilanti. The best ball scramble has a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m.

The cost is \$280 per foursome which includes unlimited use of the driving range preceding the scramble, golf with cart, lunch, dinner and prize opportunities.

All proceeds benefit the Tammy Sperle Memorial Scholarship Fund which was established after corrections employee Tammy Sperle was killed by a prisoner while working her store assignment.

Additional information is available from Sgt. Deb Eckerly, C/O Bill Dillman or Admin. Assistant Karen Whalen at (734) 572-9900. *7.7.1*

Human Resources golf outing raises \$811 for kids



More than 130 golfers participated in the 10th Annual Bureau of Human Resources golf outing. Raffles and hole-in-one prizes helped raised \$811 for the Sparrow Hospital Children's Miracle Network. *F.Y.J*

From left: Grandview Plaza Human Resources staff Kathy Warner, Sue Mulford and Gary Manns presented a check to Lisa Weber, Children's Miracle Network.

Five receive awards at Baraga Maximum Correctional Facility



From left: DD Dennis Straub, C/O Tony Datto, Warden Tim Luoma, RUO Donald DeForge, RN Gloria Hill and RPA James MacMeekin.

evolved into a struggle wherein the prisoner attempted to obtain Hoover's and Bessner's weapons. Responding staff and the MSP allowed the prisoner to be placed back in the vehicle although the use of chemical agents during transport was necessary.

C/O Tony Datto, RUO Donald DeForge and Health Unit Manager Gloria Hill were recipients of the Department's Lifesaving Award for providing first aid to an unresponsive prisoner in the Level I housing unit at Baraga. Staff administered shock three times as instructed by the Automatic External Defibrillator. *F.Y.J*

Recently Deputy Director Dennis Straub and RPA James MacMeekin visited the Baraga Maximum Correctional Facility to present five employees with awards.

RUOs Bryan Hoover and Jason Bessner were nominated and selected to receive the Department's Valor Awards for their conduct on October 14, 2004. While involved in the transport of a prisoner to the hospital, the prisoner began to fake a seizure which



From left: RUO Jason Bessner, Warden Tim Luoma and RUO Bryan Hoover.

Agent receives volunteerism award from First Gentleman



Probation Agent Amy Bonito, Lapeer County Probation/Parole was awarded a Certificate of Recognition from the First Gentlemen, Daniel Mulhern, for her community service involvement on May 20, 2005. She was one of 260 nominees for a Governor's Service Award.

Agent Bonito's community services endeavors throughout the years include serving meals and arranging birthday celebrations for senior citizens, collecting teddy bears for a women's domestic violence shelter, mentoring at a local elementary school, working with the NAACP, fund raising for the Williams Syndrome Foundation and the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society.

Presently Agent Bonito volunteers at the gift shop at Hurley Hospital in Flint where proceeds from the gift shop support the neonatal unit. She is also involved in the Imprint Program, a program coordinated by the Young Lawyers section of the Michigan Bar. *J.Y.J*

Sgt. James Roth receives Citizenship Award



Warden Bruce Curtis, Sgt. James Roth and RPA Barbara Bock.

Sgt. James Roth, supervisor of the public works crews at Cooper Street Correctional Facility, was recently awarded the Michigan Department of Corrections Citizenship Award for his efforts in locating the owner of a suitcase that was found along the highway during Operation CLEAN.

The 22-year corrections veteran located the owner by contacting directory assistance, the bank, the social security office and the credit card company that were listed on some paperwork found in the suitcase. He enlisted the assistance of the Michigan State Police, Jackson Post Detective. Sgt. Roth's determination led him to locate the suitcase owner. at the Veteran's Hospital in Ann Arbor.

He not only returned the personal items which had been laundered and freshened up as much as possible, he replaced the items with new clothing items donated by Wal-Mart of Jackson and with a new suitcase he had purchased. *J.Y.J*

Rally to support Newberry held at Capitol

Citizens from the Upper Peninsula town of Newberry, DOC employees, MCO officials and legislators were joined by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm at a rally held Tuesday at the Capitol.

The gathering was to show support for keeping open the Newberry Correctional Facility and Camp Manistique.

Gov. Granholm told the crowd that she would not support the closure of the Newberry prison and would veto a budget that had the closure in it.

After the rally, DOC Director Patricia L. Caruso told reporters that she was not willing to put the department and residents of the state of Michigan at risk to keep open an inefficient private facility.

At right Gov. Granholm addresses the rally. 7.7.7.



Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility holds blood drive

The Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility recently held an American Red Cross blood drive. With eight first-time donors they surpassed their goal of 35 donors by two and netted 30 productive units for the Red Cross. 7.7.7.

Agent Michael Henry awarded Bronze Star for military service

Staff Sergeant Michael D. Henry, Kalamazoo Probation Agent, was recently awarded a Bronze Star Medal by the President of the United States. This medal is for exceptionally meritorious service during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Agent Henry was recognized for his outstanding dedication to duty.

The award recognizes that his actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of military service, reflecting great credit upon himself, Multi-National Corps Iraq and the United States Army. Agent Henry also served as the Grand Marshall for the Memorial Day Parade held in Paw Paw. 7.7.7.

Michigan State Industries holds open house July 13 and 14

Michigan State Industries (MSI) is holding its fourth annual open house on Wednesday and Thursday, July 13 and 14, 2005. All department staff and customers are invited to stop by to see the new furniture styles and panel systems being produced by MSI.

RSVP on or before July 8 by calling the open house hotline number at 517-241-5400 or e-mail msisales@michigan.gov. 7.7.7.



E-Learning prize winners named



From left: Institution Training Officer Cheryl Rodenbo, Warden Blaine Lafler, Executive Secretary Nancy Jones, and the KnowledgeNet Administrative Team Brian Devereaux and Joe Lemke



*From left:
Laura
Campbell
and GVP
Procurement
Manager,
Marsha
Stansfield*

The grand prize winners of the May E-Learning Promotion are Sgt. Dwight Chandler, Carson City Correctional Facility; Nancy Jones, warden's secretary, St. Louis Correctional Facility and Laura Campbell, contracts manager, Grandview Plaza procurement. The fourth place winner of a 64 mb memory stick was Sarah Camp, Probation Agent, Chrysler District Probation Office.

Consolation prize winners were Jerry Havens, St. Louis Correctional Facility; Warren Rose, St. Louis Correctional Facility; Debra Wilson, St. Louis Correctional Facility; Ann Bunting, Pine River Correctional Facility; Judy Ann Dennis, Parr Highway Correctional Facility; Kathy Jeffery, West Shoreline Correctional Facility and Sandra Simmons, Greenfield District Probation Office.

There were 525 entries during this promotional event that ran to introduce employees to the new KnowledgeNet courses. Be sure to watch [F.Y.I.](#) for future e-learning promotional events. [F.Y.I.](#)



From left: Warden Kurt Jones, Sgt. Dwight Chandler and Institution Training Officer Jean Brunner

Online resources for state employees

Looking for information about state employee benefits, raising your family or living a healthy lifestyle? You can find a wealth of resources by visiting the Governor's Web site www.michigan.gov/gov and following the State Employees link. From the State Employees page try the following links:

Click on the MI Parent Resources and you will find the following links:

State Resources and Services will give you information on:

- Health & Wellness* Provides links to information on health & wellness programs for both parents and children such as immunization, well baby care, mental health, post-partum depression and smoking.
- Care for Your Child* Provides links to information on caring for your child such as newborn screening, lead poisoning prevention, day care, Internet safety, crime prevention & safety, disability needs and special care services.
- Fitness & Nutrition* Provides links to information on nutrition and staying healthy. Topics include breastfeeding, healthy hints for pregnant women, feeding your child, exercise and weight loss tips.
- Education* Provides links to on-line resources for parents on education. Topics include the Governor's Project Great Start, school health education, parent resources and paying for education.
- Adoption & Foster Care* Provides links to resources and services available for adoption and foster care.

State Employee Information provides:

- MI HR Self-Service* An online Web-based tool designed to provide you with access to update and view your personnel information.
- MI HR Information* An online resource for benefit, payroll, and human resource information tailored to you and your employment situation.
- MI HR Service Center* Assists employees with routine human resource issues and questions and MI HR Self-Service and MI HR Information login and password support.
- Leaves & Scheduling* Information on paid and unpaid leaves and work schedule options.
- Health Insurance & Enrollment* Information on benefits and how to enroll your dependent in your insurances.
- Beneficiary Changes* Information on updating your beneficiary designations
- Tax and Education Information* Information on tax exemptions, adoption tax credit, and paying for education.

You will also find a link to *Human Resource & Contacts*:

- MI HR Service Center*
- Agency Human Resource Office Contact* (State intranet only)
- State Agencies & Contact Directories*

You may also access a listing of the employee savings program at the *Employee Savings Program DMB* link provided through the Department of Management and Budget. There you'll find computer and cell phone savings.

Although it's not on the Governor's Web page, another source of health information along with money-saving coupons for fitness programs and equipment can be found on the Employee Wellness Web site. Go to the Michigan.gov/mdcs Web page and click on *Employee Benefits* and then on *Employee Health and Wellness*. **7.4.1.**